

REMARKS

Applicants have amended their claims in order to amend dependency of claims 18 and 19. Noting that claims 18 and 19 recite a "functioning substrate", and not a method, claims 18 and 19 have been amended to be dependent on claim 17, rather than on claim 16.

The restriction requirement set forth on pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action mailed December 21, 2006, is noted. Applicants respectfully traverse this restriction requirement insofar as applicable to claims 18 and 19 as presently amended. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claims 18 and 19, reciting a functioning substrate, should be included with the Group I claims. In view thereof, it is respectfully submitted that the Group I claims should be claims 2-8, 10-14 and 17-26. Thus, insofar as claims 18 and 19 are presently amended to be dependent on claim 17, Applicants respectfully traverse the inclusion of claims 18 and 19 in the Group III claims, and respectfully submit that claims 18 and 19 should be included in the Group I claims. As presently amended/elected, Applicants respectfully elect the Group I claims, and respectfully submit that claims 2-8, 10-14 and 17-26 fall within the Group I claims. Apart from traversing the restriction requirement with claims 18 and 19 being designated as falling within the Group III claims, Applicants do not further traverse the restriction requirement.

The election of species requirement as set forth on pages 3 and 4 of the Office Action mailed December 21, 2006, is noted.

Initially, Applicants respectfully traverse the contention by the Examiner that claim 23 falls within Species B. Thus, claim 23 recites that the first diameter of the columnar micro pillars, at said matrix, is greater than the second diameter at a position intermediate to the height of the columnar micro pillars. Claim 23 is silent

with respect to diameter of the tip of the micro pillars. Insofar as the election-of-species requirement is applicable to claim 23, it is respectfully submitted that claim 23, reciting a larger diameter at the matrix, is closer to Species A than Species B. It is respectfully submitted that claim 23 should be included with Species A, rather than Species B, for prosecution on the merits in the above-identified application.

In addition, the contention by the Examiner that, currently, claim 24 is generic, is noted.

The requirement by the Examiner that a listing of all claims readable on the elected species must be provided, set forth in the second full paragraph on page 4 of the Office Action mailed December 21, 2006, is noted. In response thereto, Applicants respectfully submit that of the elected Group I claims, claims 2-5, 7, 8, 10-14, 17 and 19-26 read on the elected species.

In view of all of the foregoing, consideration of claims directed to the elected invention and elected species (respectively, the Group I claims and Species A), the elected Group and Species including claims 2-5, 7, 8, 10-14, 17 and 19-26, in due course, is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

By 
William I. Solomon
Reg. No. 28,565

WIS/ksh
1300 N. Seventeenth Street
Suite 1800
Arlington, Virginia 22209
Telephone: (703) 312-6600
Facsimile: (703) 312-6666